

A. County should just suck it up

By Frank T. Regas, Sioux Falls

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Good grief, here we go again: "The new court house is too small to facilitate our city government and the business they conduct there."

So, who are they going to put the burden on again - us, by raising our taxes again, or possibly cutting funding elsewhere?

Well, you know what, teachers deal with this type of situation every day - classrooms too small, over-crowded classes and schools, not enough equipment. Students have not been and are not getting the attention they need because the lack of funding, not unlike the problem we are hearing from our whining county government. The difference is there always seems to be a difference when it comes to government funding themselves for something they want. I say deal with it, just like how they force our schools and teachers to.

Two tones represented in the passage: **Words/phrases that create this tone:**

1. _____

2. _____

B. Stick with Board of Regents

By James B. Mollison, vice chairman, Capital University Center Board, Pierre

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Responsiveness of higher education institutions to communities is one of the focal points in the legislative debate on who will govern the technical institutes. It might be helpful to understand the experience from a Pierre community perspective.

For 20 years I have served on the Capital University Center Board. As a retired businessman, I continue my interest because higher education opportunities are critical to my community's future.

Four years ago we changed how we conduct business in Pierre by agreeing to have the Board of Regents take responsibility for the administrative structure of our educational center, which is now 25-years-old. At that time there was considerable concern that we would be relegated to a step-child status and would not receive the attention we desired from the Board of Regents.

The experience has been nothing of the kind and proven these fears to be unfounded. Today we have better higher education services for central South Dakota than has ever been the case. In our experience, the Regents have been responsive and timely.

Our experience with the state's technical institutes has been just the opposite. Repeatedly, our requests for services in the Pierre community have gone unanswered. Given the options of creating a new state bureaucracy or merging the technical institutes into the Board of Regents, I am confident that we would be better served by sticking with a proven entity, the South Dakota Board of Regents.